

REMARKS

Applicants have amended the claims in order to reduce the initial filing fee by deleting the multiple dependent claims from the application. Applicants retain the right to reintroduce any subject matter canceled by the present Amendment at any time during the prosecution of this application or any further application claiming benefit of this application.

Applicants have amended the application to substitute the originally filed pages 10-11 with the amended pages 1-2 attached to the International Preliminary Examiner Report (Annexes) and included in the application as filed herewith. Also, an Abstract of the Disclosure has been added to the application.

Applicants are submitting herewith a copy of the Search Report which issued on International Application No. PCT/EP0001046, of which the present application is the U.S. national phase. All of the publications cited in the International Search Report are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. It is Applicants' understanding that, under the procedures of the PCT, copies of the cited publications will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office by the International Bureau. However, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned attorney if additional copies are necessary or would facilitate examination of the present application.

Otherwise, the Examiner is respectfully requested to return an initialed and dated copy of the attached Form PTO-1449 to confirm that all publications listed thereon have been considered and made officially of record in the file of this application.

Applicants understand that, under the procedures of the PCT, a copy of the priority document (SE 9900495-4, filed 12 February 1999) will have been supplied to the U.S. Patent Office pursuant to Rule 17 of the PCT Regulations. It is therefore respectfully requested that the first Official Action in the present application contain an indication that the appropriate priority document is in the file of this application.

In view of the above amendments, an early action on the application is now in order and is most respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Marked-Up Version Showing Changes Made

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 3-6 and 8-10 with the following amended claims.

3(Amended). TB vaccine composition according to claim 1 [or 2], wherein the adjuvant has a monoglyceride preparation content of at least 90%, preferably at least 95%, and the acyl chains of the monoglyceride preparation contains 8 to 20 carbon atoms, preferably 14 to 20 carbon atoms, and the acyl chains optionally contains one or more unsaturated bonds.

4(Amended). TB vaccine composition according to [any one of claims 1-3] claim 1, which further comprises pharmaceutical excipients selected from the group consisting of biocompatible oils, physiological saline solution, preservatives and osmotic pressure controlling agents, carrier gases, pH-controlling agents, organic solvents, hydrophobic agents, enzyme inhibitors, water absorbing polymers, surfactants, absorption promoters, and anti-oxidative agents.

5(Amended). TB vaccine composition according to claim 3 [or 4], wherein the adjuvant is a mixture of mono-olein and oleic acid, and possibly soybean oil, and the immunizing component is heat-killed *M. tuberculosis* bacteria.

6(Amended). TB vaccine composition according to [any one of claims 1-5] claim 1, wherein the composition is formulated into a preparation for mucosal administration.

8(Amended). Aerosol or spray package comprising a TB vaccine composition according to [any one of the claims 1-7] claim 1.

9(Amended). Nose-drop package comprising a TB vaccine composition according to [any one of the claims 1-7] claim 1.

10(Amended). A method of vaccinating a mammal against Tuberculosis (TB) which comprises mucosal administration to the mammal of an protection-inducing amount of a TB vaccine composition according to [any one of claims 1-7] claim 1.

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